

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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FM AMEMBASSY NICOSIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1180

INFO AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY LONDON

USMISSION USUN

DIA WASHDC

USMISSION NATO

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

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DEPT PASS USIA

E. O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR CY TU GR PINT

SUBJECT: CLERIDES NEWS CONFERENCE AT LARNACA AIRPORT,
FEBRUARY 14

1. FOLLOWING IS TRANSCRIPT OF NEWS CONFERENCE GIVEN BY
GLAFOS CLERIDES AT LARNACA AIRPORT BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE
FOR ATHENS ON FEBRUARY 14.

2. BEGIN QUOTE. QUESTION: COULD YOU TELL US WHAT YOU EXPECT
TO ACCOMPLISH ON THIS CURRENT TRIP?

ANSWER: WELL, OF COURSE THE REASON THAT I AM GOING IS BECAUSE
WE INTEND TO CALL AN URGENT MEETING OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL
TO DISCUSS THE NEW SITUATION WHICH HAS BEEN CREATED IN CYPRUS
BY THE DECLARATION, UNDER A DISGUISED FORM, OF A SEPARATE STATE
IN CYPRUS BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOT LEADERSHIP. THERE ARE TWO
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ASPECTS OF THE PROBLEM. ONE IS THE PROBLEM OF THE TENSION

THAT MAY RESULT FROM THIS ACTION AND THE THREAT TO PEACE IN THE
ARA. THERE IS ALSO THE OTHER ASPECT OF THE PROBLEM: THE
QUESTION THAT IT'S NOT POSSIBLE CONTINUE CONSTRUCTIVELY
TALKS ON THE CYPRUS PROBLEM WHEN FAITS ACCOMPLIS ARE AT-
TEMPTED TO BE CREATED BY THE OTHER SIDE AND TO CREATE A
CONDITION OF NEGOTIATIONS IN WHICH THEY INTEND TO IMPOSE
ON US THE TYPE OF SOLUTION WHICH THEY HAVE IN MIND.

3. Q: SIR, WHAT KIND OF ACTION ARE YOU GOING TO ASK THE
SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE?

A: THE FINAL FORMULATION OF THE KIND OF ACTION WHICH WE
WILL ASK THE SECURITY COUNCIL TO TAKE WILL BE MADE AFTER
I HAVE TODAY AND TOMORROW MORNING MEETINGS WITH THE GREEK
FOREIGN MINISTER.

4. Q: ARE YOU SAYING THEN THAT THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS
ARE OFF?

A: ALL I AM SAYING IS THAT IT IS IMPOSSIBLE TO CARRY ON CON-
STRUCTIVE NEGOTIATIONS WHEN DURING THE PROCESS OF NEGOTIATIONS,
ONE SIDE PREPARES TO TAKE ACTION WHICH WOULD REJECT THE
RESULT OF THE INTERCOMMUNAL TALKS.

5. Q: DOES THIS REALLY CHANGE THE BASIC SITUATION ON THE
GROUND IN CYPRUS?

A: IN MY OPINION IT DOES, BECAUSE SO FAR WE HAVE HAD A DE FACTO
SITUATION. IF THE DE FACTO SITUATION IS ATTEMPTED TO BE MADE
INTO A DE JURE SITUATION BEFORE A SOLUTION TO THE CYPRUS
PROBLEM IS AGREED TO, THEN OBVIOUSLY THE BASIC SITUATION IS
CHANGING IN CYPRUS.

6. Q: WOULD YOU SAY THAT THIS IS A COUP OF SORTS, THEN?

A: WELL, I WOULD SAY THAT IT WAS A UNILATERAL ACTION AT
A TIME WHEN THERE WERE BICOMMUNAL NEGOTIATIONS, AND I WOULD
SAY THAT ACTING UNILATERALLY, THE TURKISH SIDE, UNDER THE COVER
OF THE TURKISH FORCES IN CYPRUS...IT IS ACTUALLY A COUP SO
FAR AS THE CYPRUS SITUATION IS CONCERNED. END QUOTE.
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